

Federal Assistance Through:

- FEMA Public Assistance Program
- USACE Public Law 84-99
- NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Program
- U.S. Small Business Administration

Levee sponsors and owners seeking assistance should follow the interagency process established at the state Joint Field Office. The intent is to provide a coordinated "one-stop shopping" process for the applicant seeking federal assistance for levee restoration, repair and other assistance.

Applications for assistance should be filed through a Joint Field Office. The Interagency Levee Work Groups will then review each request to determine the agency responsible for handling the request.



For example, an applicant can request both debris removal and levee repair. Debris removal is covered by the FEMA Public Assistance program, while levee repairs fall under the jurisdiction of either the Natural Resources Conservation Service (Department of Agriculture) or the Corps Public Law 84-99 program.

If the determination is made that the levee repair does not fall within either the Corps or NRCS program, the work group will determine if there is any assistance available under the FEMA Public Assistance program. Other assistance may be available through the U.S. Small Business Administration. Assistance for economic redevelopment infrastructure (not including levee reconstruction) may be available through the Economic Development Administration.

Alternatives for reducing vulnerabilities will be considered for all levees to be repaired under the Corps PL 84-99 program and the NRCS program, to include non-structural actions such as permanent evacuation of flood-prone areas, installation of flood warning systems and/or creation of natural and artificial flood water storage basins.

Contact Information

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ----- (601) 634-5757
FEMA JFO Iowa ----- (515) 251-3501
FEMA JFO Indiana ----- (317) 570-3000
FEMA JFO Illinois ----- (217) 535-3001
FEMA JFO Missouri ----- (573) 632-2100
FEMA JFO Wisconsin ----- (608) 243-0700
Natural Resources Conservation Service - (202) 690-0793

www.iwr.usace.army.mil/ILTF/
www.fema.gov

We want to provide you with the tools and opportunities necessary for a successful recovery program. What we ask of you is to consider your vision for flood-prone properties ... for now and for the future.

Raising the Standard

An Interagency
Approach to Manage
our Flood Waters

Solutions needed now for the future



The challenge continues ... how to manage flood waters to reduce risks in the future ...

As a result of the 2008 Midwest floods, federal agencies in cooperation with state agencies in the impacted areas of Wisconsin, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri will be joining forces to find solutions on how to manage flood waters to reduce risks in the future. This interagency approach to manage flood waters will explore both short- and long-term solutions.

Traditionally, structural measures such as levees and dams have successfully been used to control flood waters. Other efforts such as expanding floodways and enlarging natural habitat areas have also worked. Despite these efforts, homes, businesses and infrastructure continue to be impacted by raging floodwaters.

Future actions must deal with flood risk management actions and decisions made by those impacted by flooding (agricultural, commercial, and industrial interests along with the general public), in an integrated manner. No one person, department or agency can make this decision; rather it must be a unified decision based on a unified approach by all parties.



Interagency process to be used for levee restoration...

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is leading the development of a collaborative regional approach to the long-term restoration of flood management systems damaged by the Midwest Floods of June 2008. The Corps is working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and other federal, state and local agencies to assemble a Regional Interagency Levee Task Force to provide a uniform approach across the region impacted by the Midwest floods.

The task force is an umbrella organization designed to look at flood plain management at a regional level and includes representatives from federal and state agencies.

Interagency Levee Work Groups will operate in state Joint Field Offices to review assistance requests from local entities, evaluate non-structural alternatives (creation of expanded floodways and ecosystems), and participate in the levee restoration process.

Regional Interagency Levee Task Force Objectives

- Share the responsibility for floodplain management among all levels of government (i.e., local, state and federal).
- Organize consistently from region to region to address long-term community recovery.
- Improve the quality of life of those impacted by providing adequate flood protection and ensuring that adequate flood protection is in place by the next flood season.
- Provide a uniform approach across regional and state boundaries, ensuring that the restoration of flood management systems is consistent, equitable and that the right agencies, authorities and resources are identified.
- Provide opportunities to evaluate non-structural alternatives for reducing vulnerability to flooding and explore other long-term mitigation initiatives and activities to improve floodplain management systems.
- Provide for an effective public outreach program.

